## Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended)    A system comprising:

a release area comprising a database for storing files and directories related to a current release of a released software product;

a build area for storing files and directories associated with modifications of a current release said build area comprises a build utility that creates derived objects from source subjects and copies files necessary to release said software product from said build area to said release area;

a software release information manager coupled to said release area and coupled to storage said build area and ~~adapted~~ operable to identify differences between files and directories in said build release storage area and files and directories in said build area; said release manager selectively copies files required for entry into said release area;

a scan element operable to determine information regarding files and directories stored in said build area; said scan element scans said build area and generates an inventory file that categorizes files that comprise said release; said scan element further loads necessary data in to said release database; and

an inventory file element for receiving and storing information in said build area; said inventory file element is operable under control is said scan element to categorize all files comprising said release area; ~~and~~

said software release information manager is operable to control the operation of said inventory file element and said scan element to effect the transfer of said information from said build area to said release storage area.

said software release information manager is operable to compare the build information in the inventory file element with release information regarding a current release of files and directories in a release storage area,

said software release information manager is operable to install modified files

and directories into the release storage area to create a new release of files and
directories in the release storage area defining a release database,

 said software release information manager is operable to update information in
30 the release database from the build information in the inventory file in response to the
step of installing modified files and directories,

 said software release information manager is operable to identify the differences
between the build storage area and the release storage area, and

 said build area is optimized for time consideration wherein said release area is
35 optimized for runtime consideration.


 2. (Cancelled)


 3. (Currently Amended)  The system of claim 1 wherein the software release
information manager further comprises:

 a release database coupled to the scan element and said inventory file element
for storing [[the]] information regarding files and directories located in the build area.


 4. (Currently Amended)  The system of claim 1 wherein the software release
information manager further comprises:

 a verify element coupled to said inventory file element to compare information
representing files and directories in the release storage area with information
5 representing files and directories in the build area to identify differences between the
compared information; said verify element allows a user to verify a software release and
provide a facility to compare different releases of the same product; said install module
uses information and said inventory data file to verify every file in said release area.

5. (Currently Amended)     The system of claim 1 wherein the software release information manager further comprises:

an install element coupled to said inventory file element to copy files and directories from the build area to the release storage area; said install element copies specified files from said build area to said release area and further creates a directory structure in said release area specifying file and directory permissions as defined by said inventory file.

6. (Currently Amended)     The system of claim 1 wherein the build area is adapted operable to be used by a developer to modify or create files and/or directories for the software product.

7. (Original)   The system of claim 1 wherein the identified differences may include one or more of: file existence, file naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

8. (Currently Amended)     A method for software release management of a software product, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a build ~~storage~~ area ~~having adapted~~ operable to have development files in a hierarchically structured development directory;

5     receiving build information regarding development files and directories ~~adapted~~ operable to be stored in the build ~~storage~~ area;

identifying a release storage area having release files in a hierarchically structured release directory;

receiving information regarding the release files and directories in the release

10     storage area; ~~and~~

storing said received build information and said received release information in an inventory file element; a scan element operable to determine information regarding files and directories stored in said build area;

said scan element scans said build area and generates an inventory file that

15     categorizes files that comprise said release; said scan element further loads necessary data in to said release database;

said inventory file element is operable under control is said scan element to categorize all files comprising said release area; a build area for storing files and directories associated with modifications of a current release;

20     said build area comprises a build utility that creates derived objects from source subjects and copies files necessary to release said software product from said build area to said release area; and

reporting to a user regarding differences between the release information and the build information wherein the differences include one or more of: file existence, file

25     naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

9. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 8 further comprising:

storing the received build information in a first database; and

storing the received release information in a second database,

wherein the step of reporting further comprises accessing the first and second

databases to compare the build information stored therein and the release information

stored therein to identify differences there between.

10. (Original)  The method of claim 8 further comprising:

installing a copy of the release files and directories in a destination storage area

to install a current release of the software product.

11. (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 8 further comprising copying

build files from the build area via said inventory file element to the release area to

generate a new release.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:

installing a copy of the release files and directories in a destination area to install

the new release of the software product.

13. (Currently Amended)   A method for software release management comprising the steps of:

identifying a build area having development files in a hierarchically structured development directory;

5          scanning said build area containing modified files, and directories for a software product;

scanning said build area containing modified files and directories for a software product, said scanning determines information regarding files and directories stored in said build area; said scan element scans said build area and generates an inventory file

10  that categorizes files that comprise said release; said scanning further loads necessary data in to said release database;

generating an inventory file from build information derived from the step of scanning and regarding ~~the~~ modified files and directories in the build area;

operating an inventory file element for receiving and storing information in said

15  build area; said inventory file element is operable under control is said scan element to categorize all files comprising said release area;

storing said scanned information in said build area into said [[an]] inventory file element;

comparing the build information in the inventory file element with release

20  information regarding a current release of files and directories in a release storage area;

installing modified files and directories into the release storage area to create a new release of files and directories in the release storage area defining a release database;

updating information in the release database from the build information in the

25  inventory file in response to the step of installing modified files and directories; [[and]]

identifying the differences between the build storage area and the release storage area; and

reporting information to a user regarding differences between the release information and the build information wherein the differences include one or more of: file

30  existence, file naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file

contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)